

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 02446 200933Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 IGA-02 TRSE-00 OMB-01
ACDA-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
/079 W

-----200959Z 016230 /15

R 200830Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1695

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EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIN, IR
SUBJ: IRAN'S LEND-LEASE/SURPLUS PROPERTY DEBT

REF: TEHRAN 1963

1. MORE OR LESS OUT OF THE BLUE MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND FINANCE HUSHANG ANSARY CALLED ME MORNING OF MARCH 19 AND, REFERRING TO OUR PREVIOUS CONVERSATION ON OUR LEND-LEASE/SURPLUS PROPERTY DEBT PROBLEM, SAID THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO PROPOSE A MEETING OF OUR TWO SIDES TO RESOLVE THIS ISSUE. HE NOTED OUR CONSISTENT POSITION THAT THE LEND-LEASE PROBLEM AND IRAN'S CLAIM WERE NOT LINKED. NEVERTHELESS, HE SAID, HE HOPED WE WOULD AGREE TO A DISCUSSION OF THE TWO ISSUES AT THE SAME TIME. HE EXPRESSED OPTIMISM THAT WE COULD REACH A MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY AGREEMENT WHICH WOULD LAY THESE MATTERS TO REST ONCE AND FOR ALL. HE DID NOT, HOWEVER, INDICATE WHAT GAVE HIM CAUSE FOR THE OPTIMISM HE EXPRESSED. HE SUGGESTED THAT THE MEETING BE SET FOR SOME TIME AFTER APRIL 15. IN RESPONSE TO MY QUERY, HE SAID THAT THE LEVEL OF THE PARTICIPANTS WAS UP TO US AND THAT THE GOI WOULD DESIGNATE AN APPROPRIATE COUNTERPART.

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2. COMMENT: WE HAVE NO CAUSE TO BELIEVE THAT THE GOI'S POSITION HAS CHANGED FUNDAMENTALLY FROM THAT DESCRIBED IN REFTEL AS WELL AS NUMEROUS EARLIER REPORTS ON THIS SUBJECT. IT IS, HOWEVER, FAINTLY CONCEIVABLE THAT ANSARY HAS FINALLY DECIDED TO BITE THE BULLET ON THIS ONE, POSSIBLY WITH THE SHAH'S APPROVAL, AND WE BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD FOLLOW UP ON HIS SUGGESTION FOR A MEETING TO FIND

OUT. EVEN IF THE GOI HAS DECIDED TO DISCHARGE ITS LEND-
LEASE/SURPLUS PROPERTY DEBT, WE INTERPRET ANSARY'S
SUGGESTION FOR A MEETING AS A DEVICE TO FIND SOME FACE-
SAVING FORMULA. ACCORDINGLY, WE BELIEVE THAT WHOEVER IS
DESIGNATED ON OUR SIDE MUST HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO AGREE
TO ANY SUCH FORMULA DEvised AT SUCH A MEETING. ON THE
IRANIAN SIDE THIS WOULD PROBABLY BE AT NO LESS THAN THE
MINISTERIAL LEVEL AND QUITE LIKELY ANSAY HIMSELF.
WITHOUT MORE TO GO ON WE ARE RELUCTANT TO URGE A
MINISTERIAL-LEVEL MEETING AT THIS JUNCTURE BUT WOULD
APPRECIATE THE DEPARTMENT'S THOUGHTS AND GUIDANCE BEFORE
PROCEEDING FURTHER.
MIKLOS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LEND LEASE, SURPLUS PROPERTY, DEBT REPAYMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation History:
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SAS ID: 3054379
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: IRAN'S LEND-LEASE/SURPLUS PROPERTY DEBT
TAGS: EFIN, IR
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Type: TE
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